GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1699
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER IN DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF MINES SAFETY
RITA VERMA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a shortage of inspectors and other officers in the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS);

(b) if so, the extent to which the functioning of DGMS has been affected owing to the shortage of manpower;

(c) whether this factor has been responsible for mine accidents in the recent few months; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a): The Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) has sanctioned strength of 167inspecting officers with 133 persons in position and 34 posts lying vacant.

(b) to (d): The mine managements are responsible for ensuring safety in their mine as laid down under Section 18 of the Mines Act, 1952. The role of inspecting officer of DGMS is limited to oversee the status of compliance of the safety provisions through inspection of these mines. The reduction in number of accidents in both Coal as well as Non-coal mines illustrates that the safety situation has improved. The Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) has also been asked to make a fresh assessment of the manpower requirement of DGMS.